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REMARKS

In response to the final Office Action mailed January 25, 2004 (Paper No. 20050112), the Assignee submits the enclosed remarks. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and fee is submitted herewith. The Office Action objected to claims 17, 27, and 32 as depending on an underlying rejected base claim, but otherwise containing allowable subject-matter. The Office Action also rejected claims 1-16, 18-26, 28-31, and 33-53. In the Office Action, claims 1-16, 18-26, 28-31, and 33-53 were rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,073,140 to *Morgan* (hereinafter "*Morgan*").

Claims 1-53 are now pending in the present application. The present response traverses all of the prior Office Action rejections.

These and other arguments are presented in the remarks below.

I. THE REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-16, 18-26, 28-31, and 33-53 (OFFICE ACTION, ¶ 9)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-16, 18-26, 28-31, and 33-53 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over *Morgan*. Office Action, pp. 5 - 9, ¶ 9. The Background section of *Morgan* merely discloses the use of matching, temporary keys different from the use of a UCID and UUID. The Office Action concedes that *Morgan* does not disclose or suggest a concept of disseminating a different UCID to different customers while maintaining the UUID. No reference for such a concept, and no motivation to combine such a reference with *Morgan* has been cited by the Office Action. This concession indicates that the limitations of claims 1, 9, 18, 28, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, and 48 are neither disclosed, suggested, or inherent in *Morgan*. Therefore, since *Morgan* does not teach all of

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the limitations of claims 1, 9, 18, 28, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45, and 48, the Office Action fails to make a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

Moreover, dependent claims 2 - 8, 10 - 16, 19 - 26, 29 - 31, 34 - 35, 37 - 38, 40-41, 43 - 44, and 46 - 47, and 49 - 53 are ultimately dependent from at least one of the above independent claims for which arguments of patentability have already been advanced above.

II. THE OBJECTION TO CLAIMS 17, 27, AND 32 (OFFICE ACTION, ¶¶ 10 - 11)

The Office Action indicates claims 17, 27, and 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17, 27, and 32 are ultimately dependent from at least one of the above independent claims for which arguments of patentability have already been advanced above.

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CONCLUSION

Claims 1-53 are pending in the application. The Office Action rejections have been traversed by the present response. Claims 1-53 are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney of record at (404) 815-6048 if such contact will facilitate a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-53. If any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Chan
Reg. No. 44,070
Attorney for Assignee

DATE: 25 APRIL 2005

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
Suite 2800
1100 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-4530
Main: (404) 815-6500
Fax: (404) 815-6555
Attorney Docket No.: E1001/261139